



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION | Mark Johnson, *Superintendent of Public Instruction*

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August 5, 2019

TO: Superintendents
Directors, Exceptional Children Programs
Directors, State Operated Programs
Directors, Education Services for the Deaf and Blind
Exceptional Children Coordinators, Charter Schools

FROM: Dr. Beverly Emory *BRE*
Deputy Superintendent of District Support

SUBJECT: **CONSENT FOR RELEASE OF CONTACT INFORMATION TO NCDPI AND THE RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND**

Session Law 2016-94, House Bill 1030, effective July 14, 2016, requires North Carolina public schools to provide a consent for release of information form to parents, guardians, or custodians of students identified with a primary disability of hearing and/or vision loss, or if the student is identified as multiple disabled and has hearing and/or vision loss. This consent authorizes the release of the parent's name, address, and the student's disability information to the NCDPI and the directors of the residential schools for the deaf and blind. The consent must be provided to parents by October 1 and affirmative consent responses only must be reported to the NCDPI and the residential school directors by November 30 of each school year.

To assist LEAs in making the collection and reporting of information manageable, the NCDPI recommends the following:

Consent form dissemination and collection:

- August 1 – September 30, 2019

Mail, or send home via the student, a consent for release of information form. An English and Spanish version is attached for your convenience and may also be found on the [EC Division website](#).

Data collection and reporting:

- October 1 – November 30, 2019

An electronic submission form is being used to collect and report required information for affirmative consents. It may be accessed by clicking [here](#). You may also access the link on the [EC Division website](#). Only the affirmative consent responses should be reported and must be submitted by November 30, 2019. If no parents in your LEA provide consent, there is a place on the submission form to indicate that.

For each subsequent school year, the NCDPI will initiate a reminder for the dissemination of the required consent form and reporting of data.

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN DIVISION

Sherry H. Thomas, Director | sherry.thomas@dpi.nc.gov

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Consenting to the release of parent contact information and child disability information does not mean that a student will be placed at one of the three residential schools for the deaf or blind. Placement of a student at one of these schools is the decision of an IEP Team. Should the IEP Team, including a parent, legal guardian or custodian, wish to consider placement at a residential school, the process outlined on the flowchart [found here](#), should be followed.

Questions may be directed to Barbria Bacon, ESDB Superintendent, barbria.bacon@esdb.dpi.nc.gov, 919-733-6192, or Sherri Vernelson, Section Chief, Sensory Support and Assistive Technology, sherri.vernelson@dpi.nc.gov, 919-807-3241.

c: Mark Johnson
Sherry H. Thomas
Barbria Bacon
Sherri Vernelson

BE/SV/tt